

Nene Valley news

YOUR LOCAL INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER FOR EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Views sought on Anti-Social Behaviour Policy

North Northamptonshire Council has launched a proposed new Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) policy in a bid to further tackle problematic behaviour in local communities.

The newly proposed policy includes clear ways for residents to report incidents, better coordination between council services, police, and community partners, improved support services for victims and preventative programmes.

The Anti-Social Behaviour Policy aims to:

- Tackle it efficiently and effectively in North Northamptonshire using appropriate and proportionate interventions
- Protect residents, prevent it and promote sustainable communities
- Encourage and develop partnerships by working with a variety of agencies and the council's internal departments to prevent and reduce it
- Provide clear and consistent information about how we will respond to complaints

To view the draft Anti-Social Behaviour Policy and take part in the questionnaire visit the North Northamptonshire Council website.

EMAT Torch Relay brings Olympic star to Prince William School

Students at Prince William School in Oundle were joined by rower Caragh McMurtry as part of the annual event.

Every child has taken part in a walk or run as part of the build-up to the EMAT Olympic Day on 25th June.

Students at Prince William School were joined for their torch relay by Olympic rower Caragh McMurtry, who did a Q&A session with the school's Year 12 sports leaders followed by a Year 7 assembly about resilience.

Caragh was also able to meet with her mentee, student Freya Sweeney, who has been mentored by Caragh for the past six months thanks to a fantastic opportunity by The Mintridge Foundation, which pairs Team GB athletes with young people for fortnightly mentoring sessions, working with them on building resilience and confidence, working hard

and overcoming setbacks.

The trust's other schools in Northampton and Milton Keynes saw visits from Paralympic wheelchair basketball player Sophie Carrigill, triple Paralympic gold medal winner and 12-time World Champion canoeist Emma Wiggs MBE and Heather Fell, an Olympic silver medallist in Modern Pentathlon.

Chief executive Joshua Coleman said: "Our EMAT Torch Relay is a truly inclusive event as it involves every one of our pupils across the trust and features some fantastic Olympians and Paralympians who are sharing their own stories of resilience and hard work with our learners.

"We are now in our fifth year of this incredible event and we



are fortunate to have a unique partnership with GB Olympians to bring sporting heroes into our schools to inspire our pupils – and perhaps the next generation of Olympians!"

The trust is also hosting its annual Ability Games, a special event for pupils with additional physical or communication needs, supported by Paralympic archer Tania Nadarajah.

This will be followed by the EMAT Olympic Day on 25th June, which will bring together around 540 pupils from 11 schools in total for an athletics competition, with a special appearance from Olympic sprinter James Dasaolu, who competed at London 2012, and runner Anita Neil, the first female black athlete to represent Great Britain.



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Local organisations unite to create opportunities for all in Northamptonshire

Major employers and public services from across the county, including both councils, came together recently for a Northamptonshire Anchor Institutions Network (NAIN) event focused on creating opportunities for all and driving social value across Northamptonshire.

Hosted by Adele Wylie, Chief Executive of North Northamptonshire Council, the event took place at The Chester House Estate on Wednesday 4th June to align with Volunteers' Week 2025. During the session, NAIN members explored how their organisations can work both

individually and in partnership, through volunteering, creating job opportunities, and ensuring that local investment delivers meaningful and lasting social impact.

Key themes included:

- Sharing good practice in policy development, with real-life examples and volunteer stories from local Voluntary Infrastructure Organisations.
- A hands-on look at a live volunteering directory and the chance to reflect on how volunteering can evolve in different settings and support the response to local challenges.

- Understanding the National Social Value Framework and where the organisations currently stand.
- Examining procurement-led impact through case studies.
- Making meaningful pledges for accountability to embed social value in everyday decision-making.

The Northamptonshire Anchor Institutions Network (NAIN), a partnership launched in June 2023, brings together some of the county's largest and most influential organisations to work collaboratively on key social and economic challenges.

The network is committed to

four key areas of focus:

- Empowering the next generation
- Creating positive employment opportunities
- Maximising social value from local investment
- Enhancing sustainability

By working together, NAIN members aim to create stronger, safer, and more inclusive communities across Northamptonshire.

Jane Bethea, Director of Public Health, Communities and Leisure at North Northamptonshire Council, said: "It was really encouraging to see so many organisations come together with a shared focus on creating opportunities for everyone in Northamptonshire."

"During Volunteers' Week, it felt especially meaningful to recognise the incredible contributions people make every day to support one another and to consider how NAIN organisations can continue to respond to local challenges."

"North Northamptonshire

Council is proud to be part of the Anchor Institutions Network and remains committed to working in partnership to build a Northamptonshire that is inclusive, supportive, and full of opportunity."

Cllr Laura Couse, Cabinet Member for Adult Care, Public Health and Regulatory Services at West Northamptonshire Council, said: "Together, with key organisations across the county, we're committed to creating real, lasting opportunities for our communities. Through the Anchor Institutions Network, we're taking a step forward to embed social value into everything we do and ensuring we deliver tangible change for our residents."

The Network meets regularly to discuss and set out actions to address their agreed priorities. In total, there are currently 25

members which are: West Northamptonshire Council, North Northamptonshire Council, Northamptonshire Children's Trust, Northamptonshire Community Foundation, Northampton General NHS Hospital, Kettering General NHS Hospital, Northamptonshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust, Northamptonshire Integrated Care Board, St Andrews Healthcare, Police, Fire, Police Fire and Crime Commissioner, University of Northampton, Northampton College, Tresham College, Moulton College, Voluntary Impact Northamptonshire, NNBN, Barclays, Northamptonshire Chamber, Northamptonshire County Association of Local Councils, Saints Foundation, Northampton Town FC Community Trust, Aspire NN and Silverstone.

GENEALOGY JOTTINGS

WORDS BY
JAN PEARSON

My 4 x great grandfather was a chap by the name of Thomas Terry. On his daughter Caroline's marriage certificate, he is shown as "deceased". Aha! I thought, with a name that was not exactly common, this would not be too difficult to find. How wrong I was... I found a death certificate for a Thomas Terry in 1840 and, with my geographical knowledge at the time not being as good as it is now, blithely ordered what I thought would be the right one. But, no. It was for a 7-month-old child, whose father was Samuel and no relation whatsoever. Back to the drawing board I went. This search was back in the 1990s and Thomas has haunted me on and off ever since.

The other day, whilst having a rummage through my motley ancestors, I dug his details out again and realised that I had no record of him in the 1841 census. In fact, I had no record of his daughter Caroline either – just a vague note that she was a servant in a house in Kent. Sleeves rolled up, coffee at hand, I set to work and found Thomas, his wife

Mary plus sons Thomas and James along with Caroline, running a farm in Worth, Sussex. Knowing that it would be rather unlikely for Thomas to move to another area of the country, as he was recorded as being a Farmer (not just an Ag Lab), I then started searching for his death in the enumeration district that covered Worth – East Grinstead – and found three! One was 1847, the next in 1849 and the third in 1850.

Back in the 1990s, ages at death were not available in the indexes unless it took place in 1866 or after. I could have ended up sending for three certificates, not knowing which was the correct one but now the GRO records the age at death on their ordering service. All you have to do is make sure that you are registered and you can check – if it is not the correct age, you do not have to order!

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Support for dementia carers in Northamptonshire as new platform launches

Vital new online tool provides clear, personalised guidance and practical help to those navigating life with dementia.

Carers Week saw the launch of a new web platform created to support people living with dementia and those who care for them.

Developed using lived experience and extensive research, the platform fills a gap in user-friendly online support, with a highly personalised and empowering approach.

As local support services continue to decline thanks to cash-strapped council cutbacks – and in a rapidly evolving digital landscape – researching this distressing subject online is becoming more and more essential. DementiaNet is heavily focused on simplicity and clarity, to minimise the triggers and overwhelm of searching for information to get affairs in order.

The demand for easy access to information and tools like DementiaNet is critical; it also offers a secure digital vault, downloadable planning tools and a step-by-step dashboard to help people tackle things like a care plan – one manageable task at a time.

DementiaNet was created following direct, personal experience of the dementia journey by two of its three co-founders, Brian Schur and Hugh McGouran. Both have witnessed firsthand the challenges that come with navigating the overwhelming information and practical tasks involved.

Brian struggled when his mother-in-law was diagnosed in 2022: “Just finding out what to do was impossible,” he said. “I’ve worked in the digital world for more than 30 years and despite being savvy online, I still found it a nightmare to do. We were given two leaflets from the GP and basically were sent away.”

Hugh, who is chair of a dementia charity, said: “There’s an overwhelming amount of information out there, however, much of it is generic and

it’s hard to navigate without being sent down a rabbit hole of links, which lead to hundreds of other results that are not relevant to you at that point. This makes the search for information very upsetting, triggering and often unproductive.

“Overwhelm is immobilising for people in this situation, many of whom are already highly stressed and frightened, whether they are looking for themselves or someone they care for,” he said. DementiaNet is uniquely designed to offer a more tailored experience; relevant information to help people at the earliest point of their journey to achieve the best sense of control they can – that’s been missing for far too long.”

DementiaNet offers a digital vault for securely storing personal information, care plans and important documents, alongside step-by-step guidance tailored to the user whether they have a diagnosis, suspect dementia, or are caring for someone else. The platform’s accessibility tools cater to users with visual impairments, ADHD and other needs.

With its planner, document store and unique user design, DementiaNet adapts to users’ specific situations – whether they’re worried about symptoms, have just received a diagnosis, or are

supporting someone with dementia. As the platform grows, it will expand to serve more groups, such as younger carers.

In addition to planning and legal tools, DementiaNet creators are also hoping to tackle the emotional and social isolation many people experience, with an online forum: “We know online communities can be saviours to people with shared experiences, so we’ve built a live conversation area for people to ask questions and help each other,” said Hugh, “Our aim is to build that community over time, so there’s always somewhere people can go to share and support each other, day or night.”

A built-in search tool also connects users with relevant activities in their local area, which dementia support groups can use to add their event or gathering to. This also has further development plans.

“Our objective is, and will always be, DementiaNet is to be a calm, informative place where people can find answers as easily as possible, get their affairs in order in a step-by-step, manageable way and connect with others,” Hugh adds.

Research shows widespread frustration and dissatisfaction with online dementia resources. A 2024 DementiaNet survey found that 88% of respondents felt



unhappy or unsatisfied with existing general dementia-related information and 36% were dissatisfied with government support information.

Fewer than one in three felt “fairly satisfied” with the help they found.

The number of people living with dementia in the UK is expected to rise to 1.4 million by 2040, with the NHS estimating that 1 in 3 people will care for someone with dementia at some point in their lives. The aim is to grow and develop DementiaNet to be the place people can go to get everything they need to manage life with dementia.

To browse or register go to dementia.net



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Sat 21 Swanage
Sat 22 Great Yarmouth Wheels Festival
Sat 28 Hovercraft Experience to Ryde
Sun 29 Sheringham

JULY

Sat 5 Llangollen Horse Drawn Boat Trip
Sat 5 Llangollen Railway & The Classic Transport Show
Sun 6 Hampton Court Palace Garden Festival
Sun 6 Elvis Evolution Exhibition
Tue 8 Bicester Shopping Village
Sat 12 Skegness
Sun 13 Hunstanton
Mon 14 Bakewell Market
Wed 16 Rutland Belle River Cruise & Oakham
Wed 23 Sandringham Flower Show
Thu 24 Shropshire & Little Switzerland
Sat 26 Southend on Sea
Sun 27 Weymouth
Tue 29 Trentham Estate & Monkey Forest
Wed 30 Battersea Power Station Lift Tour & Shopping (New shopping Destination)
Thu 31 London Zoo
Thu 31 Postal Museum, London

AUGUST

Fri 1 Chester
Fri 1 Chester Zoo
Sat 2 Buckingham Palace & Afternoon Tea
Sat 2 Whitby
Sun 3 Sheringham
Tue 5 Cromer
Wed 6 Hovercraft Experience to Ryde
Wed 6 Haworth & KWVR
Thu 7 Southwold
Thu 7 Liverpool
Thu 7 Liverpool's Open Top Bus
Thu 7 Beatles Story Tour, Liverpool
Fri 8 Butterfly Farm & Stratford Upon Avon
Fri 8 Stamford Market Day
Sat 9 Broadstairs
Sat 9 Margate
Sun 10 Great Yarmouth
Mon 11 Norfolk Broads River Trip
Tue 12 Cadbury World
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Thu 14 Windsor OR Windsor Castle
Fri 15 Canterbury OR Whitstable
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Sat 16 Hunstanton
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JUNE – JULY

29 JUNE – 6 JULY
THE BLACK FOREST - £1019pp

The Waldeck Spa Resort, Bad Durrheim, Germany. Half Board including excursions. The Schwarzwald (Black Forest) comprises a swathe of deep-green woodland draped across the granite and Sandstone Mountains of Baden-Württemberg in south-west Germany. As the setting of countless Grimm Brothers' fairy tales, the Black Forest happily plays up to its image as a land of cuckoo clocks, cherry gateaux, outlandish traditional garb, hefty half-timbered farmhouses and hill upon hill of dark evergreen forests, celebrated for their unspoilt beauty.

20 – 24 JULY
STEAM, GIN & NEW FOREST - £559pp

Norton Park Hotel, Sutton Scotney, Winchester. Half Board. The county of Hampshire's coastline extends for miles and miles and is relatively unspoilt, you will see some unforgettable coastal views. The New Forest has popular attractions too, such as the National Motor Museum at Beaulieu. To the north of Hampshire you can discover fascinating museums and country houses. Travel back in time at the Milestones, a living history museum where costumed actors help bring the streets of old to life. Tour includes Sapphire Gin, and Watercress Line.

26 – 30 JULY
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North Northamptonshire Council Never Give Up team named finalists in Housing Heroes Awards 2025

North Northamptonshire Council's Never Give Up Team has made it to the finals of the Housing Heroes Awards 2025 – the UK's leading awards that recognise the outstanding efforts of individuals and teams who improve the health and wellbeing of tenants and residents.

The Never Give Up team has been shortlisted in the Team of the Year (1,000 to 15,000 homes) category for its exceptional efforts in addressing rough sleeping in the region.

The Never Give Up Project was established in May 2023 to support people who have been rough sleeping for an extended period and are experiencing multiple exclusion homelessness, including mental health issues, substance misuse, grief, debt, and previous incarceration. The project aims to help individuals gradually sustain an independent tenancy.

The project offers accommodation comprising 16 self-contained, newly refurbished flats throughout North Northamptonshire, and a team that provides tailored individual support. Tasks include help with setting up utility bills, assisting with recovery, and liaising with partner agencies like Mental Health Services.

The Never Give Up team goes beyond basic support, providing creative solutions to help individuals stay on track, such as art therapy to help with grief, accompanying residents to the supermarket, and setting up piano lessons. They also help individuals understand finances, set

up savings accounts, and create personalised incentives for achieving goals they have set together.

Since May 2023, the Never Give Up Team has supported 26 people to date, helping to reduce the number of people sleeping rough long-term in North Northamptonshire from 13 in April 2024 to just 6 by December 2024. Their work has led to many inspiring success stories, including individuals moving into permanent housing and sustaining their tenancies, overcoming lifelong alcohol dependence, and securing employment.

Cllr Martin Griffiths, Leader of the Council (and Executive for Housing), said: "Too many people still face the harsh reality of rough sleeping and homelessness – everyone deserves a safe place to call home and the chance to rebuild their lives.

"The Never Give Up Team exemplifies the dedication and innovative spirit needed to tackle homelessness in North Northamptonshire, consistently going above and beyond in their professional roles to find creative solutions for each challenge.

"Winning this award would be a testament to their hard work and the positive impact they have made on the lives of our residents. I am incredibly proud of the team's achievements and this well-deserved recognition."

The winners of the Housing Heroes Awards 2025 will be announced at a ceremony on Monday 23rd June in Manchester.

NEW COUNCIL EXECUTIVE MEET FORMALLY FOR THE FIRST TIME

North Northamptonshire Council's new Executive met on Tuesday 17th June at 11am at the Corby Cube for the first Executive meeting since the May elections.

The Executive comprises of:

- Leader of the Council - Cllr Martin Griffiths
- Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Adults and Health Partnerships - Cllr Eddie McDonald
- Executive Member for Finance, Efficiency and Change - Cllr Graham Cheatley
- Executive Member for Assets, Waste and Environmental Services - Cllr Ken Harrington
- Executive Member for Children, Education and Families - Cllr Elizabeth Wright
- Executive Member for Highways and Travel - Cllr Chris McGiffen
- Executive Member for Planning and Economic Growth - Cllr Jan O'Hara
- Executive Member for Regulatory Services - Cllr Kirk Harrison
- Executive Member for Communities - Cllr Gregory Wilcox
- Executive Member for Health and Leisure - Cllr Barry O'Brian

Topics on the papers for the first Executive meeting included Hackney Carriage and Taxi licensing policy, Housing Strategy 2025-2030 and Member Empowerment Policy.

Residents in North Northamptonshire can find who their local unitary ward councillor is by visiting the council's website.



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Long serving Higham Ferrers Mayor's Sergeant retires – Oh yes he does!

The long-serving Mayor's Sergeant, David Wicks, is retiring from the role. David has proudly served the council for nearly 44 years and retires from the role due to health issues. David has served an impressive 44 Mayors, alongside seven Town Clerks.

As the Mayor's Sergeant, David was appointed to attend upon the Mayor, to bear the Mace before him or her, to add dignity and grace to council proceedings and to assist the Mayor during their civic year.

Many will have seen David carrying the Mace on his shoulder, in his Mayor's Sergeant uniform, on official duties. He officiated at the Mayor's Civic Service, Remembrance Sundays, the Christmas Sparkle light switch-on, the Bedesmans' Day Services and the Town Carol Services, as well as the monthly council meetings.

In Higham Ferrers the role of Mayor's Sergeant can be traced back to at least 1420. There is no reference to the Mace at that time, but it is mentioned in later records around the time of the town's Charter of 1556. Maces were originally old weapons of war. Over time, maces were replaced with the more elaborate and ceremonial maces that we are familiar

with seeing today. The Higham Ferrers Mace David carried is silver gilt, weighing 2.5 kg with the head bearing an open arched crown with orb and cross.

If being the Mayor's Sergeant wasn't enough, David is also well known locally as a pantomime dame. Last Christmas the council staff were delighted to attend the Castle Theatre in Wellingborough to see David playing his 39th pantomime dame, this time as Rapunzel. "Oh no he wasn't Rapunzel," we hear you cry. Oh yes he was!

The Leader of the Town Council, Cllr Tony Reading, pays honour to David's long service: "I have known David for over 26 years of his near 44 as the Higham Ferrers Town Council's Mayor's Sergeant. I would regularly exchange 'one liners' with him, although his were always quicker and better honed by his many years on stage during the pantomime season. He will be a hard act for anyone to follow."

Councillors also pay tribute: "David, who has been the Mayor's Sergeant and Mace-Bearer, has been a big part of ceremonial occasions in the town. He has always made sure, whether it's a town council meeting or ceremonial occasion, that everything is carried out punctually and professionally."

"Thank you for your extraordinary 44 years of dedicated service. Your attention to tradition, especially during the magical Christmas Sparkle, has brought joy to generations. Your warm welcomes during school visits and council chamber tours have inspired countless young minds. With unwavering care, you've ensured Mayors are dressed (and sometimes undressed!) with dignity and humour, always ready for duty. Your loyalty, grace, and behind-the-scenes devotion have helped uphold the ceremonial heart of our town. We are deeply grateful and wish you a well-earned and sparkling retirement."




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Nene Valley News - EVENTS

> **SUNDAY 22ND JUNE, 10.15AM**

Morning Worship with Holy Communion

Whitefriars Church, Whitefriars Primary School, Boughton Drive, Rushden NN10 9HX.

> **TUESDAY 24TH JUNE, 7.30PM**

Local Churches Serving the Community

Sharing details at Highfield Community Baptist Church, Highfield Road, Rushden NN10 9QD. Organised by Rushden & Higham Ferrers Council of Churches – all welcome.

> **SUNDAY 29TH JUNE, 9AM**

Higham Ferrers Footpath Group

Saffron Road car park for car sharing. Contact Gerry on

07468 793181. 6.5 mile walk from Wadenhoe.

> **SUNDAY 29TH JUNE, 10.15AM**

Morning Worship

Whitefriars Church, Whitefriars Primary School, Boughton Drive, Rushden NN10 9HX

> **FRIDAY 4TH JULY, 7.30PM**

Northamptonshire Industrial Archaeology Group – Ironstone walk

Great Addington (grid reference SP 959 749). Details secretary@niag.org.uk

> **SUNDAY 6TH JULY, 10.15AM**

Morning Worship

Whitefriars Church, Whitefriars Primary School, Boughton Drive, Rushden NN10 9HX



> **SUNDAY 6TH JULY, 8.50AM**

Higham Ferrers Footpath Group

Saffron Road car park for car sharing. Contact Rose on 07740 995707. A 6 mile walk from Fotheringhay to Elton.

To submit your event please contact us via our website www.nenevalleynews.co.uk or call 01522 692542. Please supply in the following format: Date, event, place, time, admission fee (if applicable), contact information, 15 word description.

MIDSUMMER IN SONG AT FOTHERINGHAY



Celebrate the Summer Solstice on Saturday 21st June by joining the Harborough Singers at Fotheringhay Church for an evening of song, strawberries and a glass of something cool and fizzy.

The Singers will present a programme of music for Midsummer, themed around sonnets and verse. Appropriately, Shakespeare's glorious words from A Midsummer Night's Dream will feature in several settings, including Sarah Quartel's beautiful 'I know a bank where the wild thyme blows', and Paterson's magical 'Lullaby for Titania'. Biblical settings will include Dove's 'Seek him that maketh the Seven Stars', Howells' 'Like as the Hart' and Bairstow's 'I sat down', with words from the Song of Solomon.

The evening begins at 6pm and is a repeat visit to Fotheringhay for the Harborough Singers, whose similar 'Song and Strawberries' concert was a sell out there last year. Tickets are £16 and include a glass of bubbles (prosecco or elderflower) and strawberries. Perfect for midsummer. From www.harboroughsingers.com or telephone 07581 341957.

HARBOROUGH SINGERS PRESENTS

Mid-Summer in Song

An Evening of Song, Sonnets & Verse

Saturday 21st June - 6.00pm

St Mary and All Saints, Fotheringhay

Conductor: Charlie Penn
Accompanist: Andrew King

Tickets: £16.00
To include a glass of Prosecco or Elderflower & Strawberries
www.harboroughsingers.com
Box Office: Tel 07581 341957
Email: adelarogers59@gmail.com

Kings Cliffe Active celebrates the power of play as it unveils its new Rockmaster recreational equipment



Families were invited to attend the grand opening of Kings Cliffe Active's new Rockmaster play area on Wednesday 11th June, from 4pm. Held on the International Day of Play 2025, the event featured a range of exciting free activities for young people to enjoy, including the chance to watch a parkour demonstration by Spiral Freerun CIC.

As a charity, Kings Cliffe Active provides leisure and sports opportunities for people of all ages from its village site, located just a short drive from both Peterborough and Stamford. The launch event was an opportunity to celebrate the newest addition to the play provision and see the facilities first-hand. There was a free demonstration and workshop, prize giveaway, music, and tasty refreshments.

"We chose to open the new play area to the public on the International Day of Play because we believe play isn't just fun - it's essential for every child's development," says Kings Cliffe Active's chair of trustees Guy Varty. "We wanted to celebrate the power of play and raise awareness about how central it is to every young person's wellbeing."

The new play equipment has been specially designed to meet the needs of children and teenagers who are over 10 years old. Guy explains: "After speaking to our local communities, we recognised there was a need for older children to have somewhere to socialise and engage in active play in our area. We wanted to extend our play equipment provision to really make it more inclusive for older kids too."

The challenging new Rockmaster equipment opens up play to teenagers who generally have more limited

leisure opportunities. Inspired by the Ninja Warrior UK TV show, the obstacle course combines elements of freerunning and parkour to build skills, confidence, resilience, and inspire creativity.

Young people can practice mastering steep ramps, sloping jumping blocks, hanging slabs or nets, and wind their way between ropes. The course is designed with varying degrees of difficulty so young athletes can progress through the training levels.

Robyn Brookes, playground consultant at Eibe play Ltd (the company behind the equipment installation), explains: "Play is how children learn to navigate the world. It helps them to build narratives, knowledge and social skills and contributes to their overall development, including physical health, cognitive development and emotional wellbeing."

"Play can reduce stress levels, help children process difficult emotions and help them build important life skills - from problem solving to expressing ideas. Just 15 minutes of play can spark millions of brain connections."

Installation of the new Rockmaster equipment was made possible thanks to an injection of £90,400 in funding from the Augean Community

Fund, FCC Communities Fund, National Lottery Community Fund Awards for All and Kings Cliffe Parish Council.

Guy says: "This really exciting new range of play equipment is the first installation of its kind in the UK. We're delighted to open it this June for the benefit of families across the region."

Kings Cliffe Active, the not-for-profit sports and recreation centre, already offers plenty of fun with its two full-sized grass football pitches, a floodlit 3G all-weather multi-use games area (MUGA), and floodlit tennis and netball courts.

There is a playground for young children, outdoor table tennis, and picnic areas. A modern pump track, for use on bikes, scooters and skateboards, has proved popular since its installation in 2023.

Kings Cliffe Active is operated as a charity, which means it's funded solely by grants and income from hiring the facilities - with all income going into site maintenance and improvements. It is located at Kingsmead, Station Road, Kings Cliffe, Peterborough PE8 6YH.

There is plenty of free car parking on-site and a community cafe that opens on selected days of the week.



For more information, email office@kcactive.co.uk or visit kcactive.co.uk





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PUBLIC NOTICES

NORTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNCIL

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 – SECTION 14

(BACK LANE, RINGSTEAD)

(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2025

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that North Northamptonshire Council intend, not less than seven days from the date of this Notice, to make an Order the effect of which will be to prohibit traffic from proceeding along that length of Back Lane, Ringstead as set out below.

LENGTH OF ROAD TO WHICH RESTRICTION APPLIES: That length of Back Lane, Ringstead from outside no.25.

REASON FOR RESTRICTION: The restriction is required for safety during pipe repairs.

PERIOD OF CLOSURE: The proposed Order will come into effect on 7th July 2025 and will continue in force for a period of eighteen months. An application may be made for the approval of the Secretary of State for Transport for the Order to be extended if this proves necessary. However, the restriction specified will have effect only at such times and to such an extent as is indicated by the display of signs prescribed by the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2016.

EXPECTED DURATION: It is expected that the road will be restricted for up to 3 days.

ALTERNATIVE ROUTES: use Denford Road, Church Street and Carlow Road.

If you require any further information please contact Steve Fowler ref:- 25/26 – N126 Steve.Fowler@northnorthants.gov.uk PKG/T25/457

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 – SECTION 14

(CALDECOTT ROAD, CHELVESTON)

(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2025

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that North Northamptonshire Council intend, not less than seven days from the date of this Notice, to make an Order the effect of which will be to prohibit traffic from proceeding along that length of Caldecott Road, Chelveston as set out below.

LENGTH OF ROAD TO WHICH RESTRICTION APPLIES: That length of Caldecott Road, Chelveston from B645 to Upper Higham Lane.

REASON FOR RESTRICTION: The restriction is required for safety during carriageway surface dressing.

PERIOD OF CLOSURE: The proposed Order will come into effect on 8th July 2025 and will continue in force for a period of eighteen months. An application may be made for the approval of the Secretary of State for Transport for the Order to be extended if this proves necessary. However, the restriction specified will have effect only at such times and to such an extent as is indicated by the display of signs prescribed by the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2016.

EXPECTED DURATION: It is expected that the road will be restricted for up to 9 days.

ALTERNATIVE ROUTES: use Upper Higham Lane and Chelveston Road.

If you require any further information please contact Steve Fowler ref:- 25/26 – N056 Steve.Fowler@northnorthants.gov.uk PKG/T25/459

Dated this 21st day of June 2025

SANJIT SULL

Director of Law & Governance (Monitoring Officer) (Interim)

Family NOTICES

Nene Valley News can help you make those important family announcements.

BIRTHS

ENGAGEMENTS

MARRIAGES

ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS

DEATH NOTICES

THANKS



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at St And
The cou
honeym

Happy 1st
Birthday



Chloe Booth have a wonderful day.
Love from Mummy, Daddy, Nanna & Grandad xxx

Chamberlain

On April 1 2025
Chamberlain, a
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surrounded by
Sadly missed b
Sally and Al
to take place at All Saints
Church, Rushden, on
Monday April 7 at 2.30pm.



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call 01522 692542 or visit www.nenevalleynews.co.uk

Local hero Maureen Weston honoured with prestigious Rose of Northamptonshire Award

Volunteer Action, a local East Northamptonshire based charity, is delighted to announce that one of its long serving and dedicated volunteers, Maureen Weston, has been recognised with the Rose of Northamptonshire Award for her outstanding contributions to volunteering. The award ceremony took place on 4th June at The Corby Cube, where Maureen proudly accepted this well-deserved honour.

Maureen has been a cornerstone of Volunteer Action for more than 18 years, selflessly giving her time and energy across a wide range of roles. Her contributions include serving as a trustee of the charity, a volunteer driver, befriender to vulnerable individuals, and a weekly office volunteer. She is also known for her delicious home baking, regularly bringing in cakes to lift spirits.

Each year, Maureen takes on the role of head chef for the annual Christmas meal, providing a festive celebration for more than 45 isolated older people in rural East Northants North – a number that continues to grow annually thanks to her dedication.

Beyond her invaluable work with Volunteer Action, Maureen's commitment to the community extends even further. She volunteers at Oxfam in Oundle, runs PHAB Club, a local charity supporting adults with learning disabilities, and leads the Oundle Yarn Bombers, who bring colour and joy to the town with their creative displays during special occasions. She even participated in The Longest Yarn exhibition, which toured across Europe.

"Maureen is a true gem of our community," said Rachel

Dixon, Chief Executive of Volunteer Action. "She embodies the very spirit of volunteering—generous, tireless, and compassionate. This award is a fitting recognition of her incredible efforts, and we couldn't be prouder."

The Rose of Northamptonshire Award celebrates individuals who have gone above and beyond in their voluntary service to improve lives and strengthen communities across the county. Maureen Weston is a shining example of this spirit in action.

For more information about Volunteer Action or to get involved, please contact:

admin@volunteeractionundle.org.uk

01832 275433

www.volunteeractionundle.org.uk



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